

Message

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**Sent:** 4/24/2020 8:00:33 PM  
**To:** Calvo, Estrella [calvo.estrella@epa.gov]; Foss, Alyssa - DATCP [Alyssa.Foss@wisconsin.gov]; martinag [martinag@purdue.edu]; Beaver, Brad [brad.beaver@illinois.gov]; Brian Clark [brian.clark@state.mn.us]; Verhougstraete, Brian (MDARD) [verhougstraeteb@michigan.gov]; Carrie Leach [leach13@purdue.edu]; Chris Difonzo [difonzo@msu.edu]; cindy flock [folck.2@osu.edu]; scottde@purdue.edu; deanh [deanh@tc.umn.edu]; Doug Owens [doug.owens@illinois.gov]; Dustin Roy [dustin.roy@whiteearth-nsn.gov]; fwhitford [fwhitford@purdue.edu]; glenn nice [gnice@wisc.edu]; Greg Minor [gregory.minor@agri.ohio.gov]; Chahal, Gurinderbir (MDA) [g.chahal@state.mn.us]; heidi fischer [heidi.fischer@state.mn.us]; john stone [stonejo2@msu.edu]; Ken Runkle [ken.runkle@illinois.gov]; ken.mccann@illinois.gov [Ken.McCann@illinois.gov]; Kern, Kevin (MDARD) [kernk@michigan.gov]; Reed, Leo A [reedla@purdue.edu]; Suppressed entry [Ex. 6 (Personal Privacy)]; Lori Bowman [Lori.Bowman@Wisconsin.gov]; Maria Restrepo-Turner [mrestrep@illinois.edu]; 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**Subject:** EPA Releases Related to Disinfectants

Please find as further below a series of 3 EPA Press Releases/Announcements from yesterday related to disinfectants that may be of interest to you. Please share with others whom you think may have an interest.

“...(EPA) announced that it is advising eight technology companies that unscrupulous dealers are using their platforms to sell illegal disinfectant products. The companies include Facebook, Ebay, Alibaba, Shopify, Qoo10, JoyBuy.com, Wish.com and banggood.com.”

“...(EPA) is continuing its efforts to provide critical information on surface disinfectant products that can be used to protect the health of all Americans throughout the COVID-19 public health emergency. In support of these efforts, EPA now has nearly 400 products that have qualified to be effective against SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19. This week the agency also published an overview of its actions and resources related to disinfection against the novel coronavirus...”

“...EPA) and U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) announced they have prevented a significant number of shipments of illegal health products from entering the Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) and the San Francisco International Airport (SFO). These products, such as the item Virus Shut Out, are not registered with the EPA and are being halted under federal pesticide laws. The safety and efficacy of these items against viruses have not been evaluated. In addition, their labeling – including directions for use – are not provided in the English language as required by law, and on-line advertising materials contain misleading claims about their safety and effectiveness.

EPA has been working with CBP to identify and seize the illegal products, which are being imported from Japan and Hong Kong through International Mail Facilities (IMFs) in Los Angeles and San Francisco. To date, CBP has seized more than 7,800 illegal products. EPA and CBP will continue monitoring for products with illegal pesticidal claims....”

<https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-provides-critical-information-american-public-about-safe-disinfectant-use>  
<https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/us-epa-calls-eight-technology-companies-address-fraudulent-covid-19-disinfectants>  
<https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/us-epa-and-cbp-act-protect-public-unregistered-virus-shut-out-product-imported>

## *Donald*

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For pesticide information visit <http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/> or <http://npic.orst.edu/>  
R5 Bed Bug Hotline at 888/644-2200 or [bedbugs@umn.edu](mailto:bedbugs@umn.edu)

To report environmental violations visit <https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-incidents>

Life Lesson: We do not stop playing because we grow old; we grow old because we stop playing.

Have a Bed Bug Free Day!!

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**From:** Office of Public Engagement

**Sent:** Friday, April 24, 2020 9:30 AM

**To:** Baumgartner, Donald <baumgartner.donald@epa.gov>

**Subject:** EPA provides critical information to the American public about safe disinfectant use



U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
**OFFICE OF PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT**  
WWW.EPA.GOV



## EPA provides critical information to the American public about safe disinfectant use

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is continuing its efforts to provide critical information on surface disinfectant products that can be used to protect the health of all Americans throughout the COVID-19 public health emergency. In support of these efforts, EPA now has nearly 400 products that have qualified to be effective against SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19. This week the agency also published an [overview](#) of its actions and resources related to disinfection against the novel coronavirus.

“EPA is dedicated to its mission of protecting human health and we want all Americans to have access to effective and approved surface disinfectant products,” said **Alexandra Dapolito Dunn, assistant administrator of EPA’s Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention**. “We also want everyone follow the directions on the product so that we can safely use registered disinfectants and provide critical protection to our families.”

When using an EPA-registered surface disinfectant, always follow the product’s directions and remember:

- Never apply the product to yourself or others. Do not ingest disinfectant products. This includes never applying any product on [List N](#) (the agency’s list of disinfectants to use against SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19) directly to food.
- Never mix products unless specified in the use directions. Certain combinations of chemicals will create highly toxic acids or gases.
- Wash the surface with soap and water before applying disinfectant products if the label mentions pre-cleaning.

- Follow the contact time listed for your product on List N. This is the amount of time the surface must remain visibly wet to ensure efficacy against the virus. It can sometimes be several minutes.
- Wash your hands after using a disinfectant. This will minimize your exposure to the chemicals in the disinfectant and the pathogen you are trying to kill.

EPA provides additional information on disinfectant safety messages on its twitter feeds, [@EPA](#) and [@ChemSafety](#). These channels will be updated with new materials throughout the COVID-19 crisis.

EPA is also continuing to add additional chemicals to its list of common inert ingredients. These actions are intended to help address supply chain issues for EPA-registered disinfectants and other pesticides. It allows manufacturers of already-registered EPA products to change the source of listed inert ingredients.

To learn more about disinfectant safety, see this guide from our partner, the National Pesticide Information Center, about using disinfectants to control COVID-19: <http://npic.orst.edu/ingred/ptype/amicrob/covid19.html>

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**From:** Office of Public Engagement

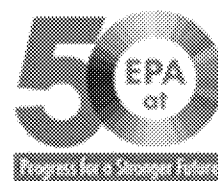
**Sent:** Friday, April 24, 2020 10:18 AM

**To:** Baumgartner, Donald <baumgartner.donald@epa.gov>

**Subject:** U.S. EPA and CBP Act to Protect the Public from Unregistered “Virus Shut Out” Product



U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
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## **U.S. EPA and CBP Act to Protect the Public from Unregistered “Virus Shut Out” Product Imported into California**

*Unsubstantiated claims to protect against viruses threaten public health*

**WASHINGTON** (April 23, 2020) — Today, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) announced they have prevented a significant number of shipments of illegal health products from entering the Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) and the San Francisco International Airport (SFO). These products, such as the item Virus Shut Out, are not registered with the EPA and are being halted under federal pesticide laws. The safety and efficacy of these items against viruses have not been evaluated. In addition, their labeling – including directions for use – are not provided in the English language as required by law, and on-line advertising materials contain misleading claims about their safety and effectiveness.

EPA has been working with CBP to identify and seize the illegal products, which are being imported from Japan and Hong Kong through International Mail Facilities (IMFs) in Los Angeles and San Francisco. To date, CBP has seized more than 7,800 illegal products. EPA and CBP will continue

monitoring for products with illegal pesticidal claims. In addition, EPA has reached out to several companies to remove the products from their online marketplaces.

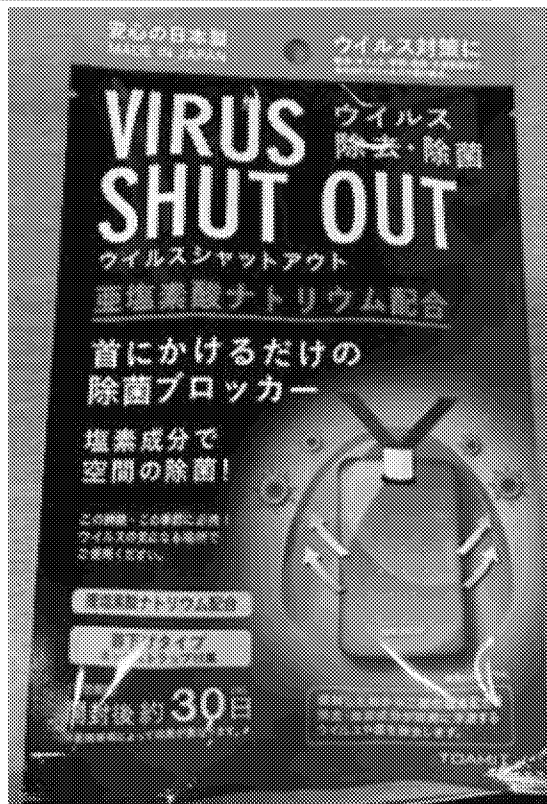
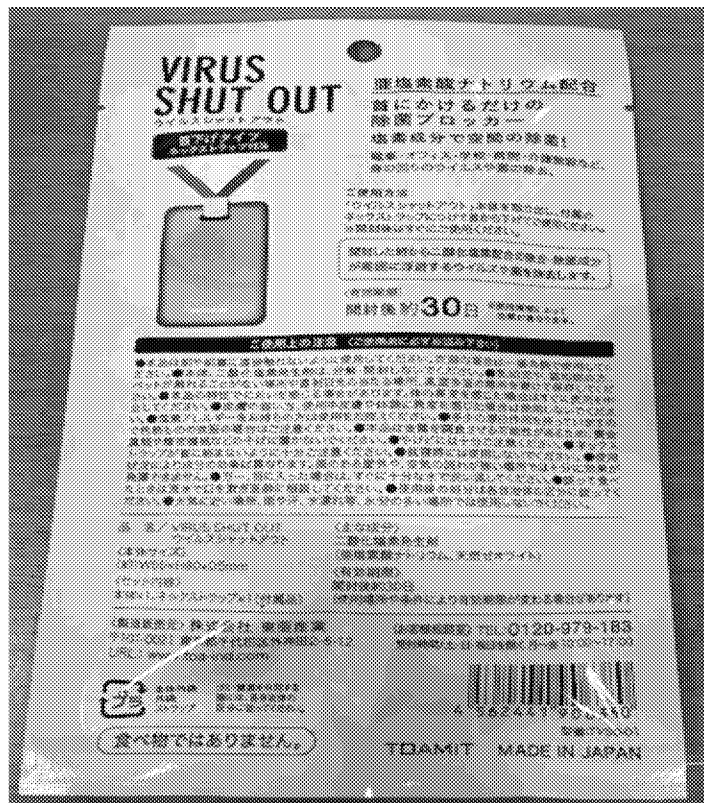
"EPA takes our responsibility to protect Americans from fraudulent products seriously," **said EPA Administrator Andrew Wheeler**. "EPA is increasing the number of approved disinfectants on the market while taking action to prevent dishonest actors from selling fraudulent and illegal items that do nothing to protect American's from the coronavirus."

"It is critical that people only use EPA-registered disinfectants and follow label directions for proper use," **said EPA Pacific Southwest Regional Administrator John Busterud**. "EPA will not tolerate companies selling illegal disinfectants and making false or misleading public health claims during this pandemic crisis."

"As America's frontline CBP is committed to work collaboratively with our EPA partners to detect, intercept and prevent the introduction of unsafe products that could potentially harm the U.S. consumer," **said CBP's Director of Field Operations in Los Angeles Carlos C. Martel**. "By combining their expertise, training and risk-assessment skills, CBP officers remain vigilant facilitating lawful trade and preventing illicit products to enter the commerce of the U.S."

"In the midst of this worldwide emergency, there are still those that would seek to take advantage by making false claims, scamming, and selling inferior products," **said CBP's San Francisco Director of Field Operations Brian J. Humphrey**. "CBP's primary goal is to protect the American public, and we will not allow unauthorized products such as these to enter the country."

Under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act, products that claim to kill or repel bacteria or germs are considered pesticides and must be registered with the EPA prior to distribution or sale. Public health claims can only be made regarding products that have been properly tested and are registered with the EPA. The agency will not register a pesticide until it has been determined that it will not pose an unreasonable risk when used according to the label directions. Products not registered by EPA can be harmful to human health, cause adverse effects, and may not be effective against the spread of germs.



Caption: Packaging showing the front and back of the Virus Shut Out product.

EPA has released an expanded list of EPA-registered disinfectant products that have qualified for use against SARS-CoV-2, the novel coronavirus that causes COVID-19. The list contains over 370 additional products—including products that went through the expedited review process for emerging viral pathogens.

To view the most up-to-date list of EPA-registered disinfectant products, visit: <https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-n-disinfectants-use-against-sars-cov-2>

For more information on EPA resources on the coronavirus disease (COVID-19): <https://www.epa.gov/coronavirus>

For more information on pesticides, please visit: <http://www.epa.gov/pesticides>

About CBP:

With more than 60,000 employees, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, CBP, is one of the world's largest law enforcement organizations and is charged with keeping terrorists and their weapons out of the U.S. while facilitating lawful international travel and trade. As the United States' first unified border entity, CBP takes a comprehensive approach to border management and control, combining customs, immigration, border security, and agricultural protection into one coordinated and supportive activity. CBP has direct responsibility for enhancing U.S. economic competitiveness. By reducing costs for industry and enforcing trade laws against counterfeit, unsafe, and fraudulently entered goods, CBP is working to enable legitimate trade, contribute to American economic prosperity, and protect against risks to public health and safety.

Learn more about CBP's mission: [www.cbp.gov](http://www.cbp.gov)

Learn more about EPA's [Pacific Southwest Region](#) . Connect with us on [Facebook](#) and on [Twitter](#).

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**From:** Office of Public Engagement

**Sent:** Friday, April 24, 2020 10:42 AM

**To:** Baumgartner, Donald <baumgartner.donald@epa.gov>

**Subject:** U.S. EPA calls on eight technology companies to address fraudulent COVID-19 disinfectants



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## **U.S. EPA calls on eight technology companies to address fraudulent COVID-19 disinfectants**

**WASHINGTON** (April 23, 2020) — The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced that it is advising eight technology companies that unscrupulous dealers are using their platforms to sell illegal disinfectant products. The companies include Facebook, Ebay, Alibaba, Shopify, Qoo10, JoyBuy.com, Wish.com and banggood.com.

"EPA takes our responsibility to protect Americans from fraudulent surface disinfectants seriously," **said EPA Administrator Andrew Wheeler**. "Earlier this month I met with online retailers and third-party platforms to ask for their help in preventing these impostor products from coming to



market. Today, we are advising eight companies to take action against these dishonest dealers and immediately take these illegal products off of their sites.”

“Unregistered disinfectants can put consumers at risk, as they may be ineffective against the virus that causes COVID-19,” **said EPA Assistant Administrator for Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Susan Bodine**. “EPA is working hard to stop the sale of these illegal products. We also urge consumers to see EPA’s list of approved disinfectant products, available on our website at [epa.gov/coronavirus](https://epa.gov/coronavirus).”

“EPA is vigorously investigating fraudulent disinfectant sales to the public via online marketplaces,” **said EPA Region 9 Administrator John Busterud**. “Companies cannot sell illegal disinfectants and jeopardize our collective efforts to protect public health.”

EPA has remained actively engaged with U.S. retailers and third-party marketplace platforms to prevent products with unsubstantiated and potentially dangerous claims of protection against the coronavirus from coming to market. Earlier this month, the agency – working with U.S. Customs and Border Protection – announced it prevented several shipments of an illegal health product from entering U.S. Pacific ports.

Under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA), products that claim to kill or repel viruses, bacteria or other germs are considered pesticides and must be registered with the EPA prior to distribution or sale. Disinfectants and antimicrobial products claiming to control, prevent, destroy, repel, or mitigate the virus that causes COVID-19 are thus regulated under FIFRA.

EPA frequently updates its list of EPA-registered disinfectant products that have qualified for use against SARS-CoV-2, the novel coronavirus that causes COVID-19. The list contains more than 370 products—including products that went through the expedited review process for emerging viral pathogens. To view the most up-to-date list of EPA-registered disinfectant products, visit: <https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-n-disinfectants-use-against-sars-cov-2>

Public health claims can only be made regarding products that have been properly tested and are registered with the EPA. Products not registered by EPA can be harmful to human health, cause adverse effects, and may not be effective against the spread of germs.

For more information on pesticide registration, please visit: <https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration>